

## Department of Veterans Affairs

## §21.7144

under §21.7136 or §21.7137, as appropriate.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3032(f))

[72 FR 16982, Apr. 5, 2007, as amended at 72 FR 35662, June 29, 2007]

### §21.7143 Nonduplication of educational assistance.

(a) *Payments of educational assistance shall not be duplicated.* An individual, entitled to educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 34, who establishes entitlement under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30, shall not be eligible to receive educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30 before January 1, 1990. An individual who is entitled to educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30 and any of the provisions of law listed in this paragraph must elect which benefit he or she will receive for the program of education he or she wishes to pursue. The provisions of law are:

- (1) 38 U.S.C. chapter 31,
- (2) 38 U.S.C. chapter 32,
- (3) 38 U.S.C. chapter 35,
- (4) 10 U.S.C. chapter 1606,
- (5) 10 U.S.C. chapter 107,
- (6) The Hostage Relief Act of 1980, (Pub. L. 96-499, 94 Stat. 1967-1974, and 5 U.S.C. 5561 note), and
- (7) The Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-399, 100 Stat. 887-889 (10 U.S.C. 2181-2185)).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3033, 3681)

(b) *Election of benefits.* The veteran must elect in writing which benefit he or she wishes to receive. The veteran may make a new election at any time, but may not elect more than once in a calendar month.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3033; Pub. L. 98-525)

(c) *Nonduplication—Federal program.* Payment of educational assistance is prohibited to an otherwise eligible veteran or servicemember—

(1) For a unit course or courses which are being paid for entirely or partly by the Armed Forces during any period he or she is on active duty;

(2) For a unit course or courses which are being paid for entirely or partly by the Department of Health and Human Services during any period that he or

she is on active duty with the Public Health Service; or

(3) For a unit course or courses which are being paid for entirely or partly by the United States under the Government Employees' Training Act.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3681)

[53 FR 1757, Jan. 22, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 28389, July 11, 1990; 57 FR 15025, Apr. 24, 1992; 58 FR 46867, Sept. 3, 1993; 61 FR 20729, May 8, 1996. Redesignated at 68 FR 35180.]

### §21.7144 Overpayments.

(a) *Prevention of overpayments.* In administering benefits payable under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30, VA will apply the provisions of §21.4008. See §21.7133.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3690(b))

(b) *Liability for overpayments.* (1) The amount of the overpayment of educational assistance paid to a veteran or servicemember constitutes a liability of that veteran or servicemember.

(2) The amount of the overpayment of educational assistance paid to a veteran or servicemember constitutes a liability of the educational institution if VA determines that the overpayment was made as the result of willful or negligent:

- (i) False certification by the educational institution; or
- (ii) Endorsement of a veteran's or servicemember's false certification of his or her actual attendance.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3685)

(c) *Recovery of overpayments.* In determining whether an overpayment should be recovered from an educational institution, VA will apply the provisions of §21.4009 (except paragraph (a)(1)) to overpayments of educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3685)

CROSS REFERENCE: *Entitlement charges.* See §21.7076(c).

[62 FR 55761, Oct. 28, 1997. Redesignated at 68 FR 35180, June 12, 2003.]